

Summer Arts Festival a strong Omaha tradition

The Gateway takes a look at the pros, and cons, of the annual art celebration. ENTERTAINMENT [PAGE 4]

VOLUME 08 | ISSUE 57



The Gateway's summer seasonal beer guide

From 2-star Skinny Dip to 4.5-star Kellerweis, we have ranked your best drink bets. ENTERTAINMENT





# upheld in slaying of Omaha sophomore

SCOTT STEWART

The Nebraska Supreme Court affirmed the conviction of Christopher Edwards on Friday for the slaying of UNO student Jessica O'Grady.

Edwards, 21, was convicted on June 15, 2007, of second-degree murder and use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony. He was sentenced to a term of 80 years to life for the murder, as well as 20 years to be served consecutively for the weapon charge.

O'Grady disappeared on May 10, 2006, and her body was never found. The case was the first murder conviction in Douglas County without a body.

Edwards alleged in his appeal that the evidence of O'Grady's death was insufficient. He further argued that the trial court had wrongly refused to issue a definition of "death" and admitted expert testimony on DNA evidence. He also challenged the court's denial of a motion to delay the trial and suppression of evidence of O'Grady's sexual history.

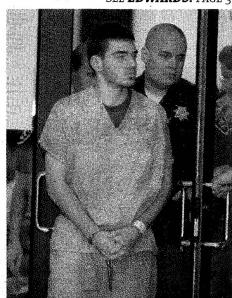
"In our opinion, the state did not prove she was dead," Steve Lefler, Edwards' attorney, told The Gateway in November. "No doctor, no medical testimony."

By upholding the conviction, however, the Nebraska Supreme Court ruled using circumstantial evidence - including DNA testing, blood evidence and the unlikelihood of O'Grady's sudden disappearance - which was sufficient to prove her death.

"To require that the victim's body be discovered would be unreasonable; it would mean that a murder could escape punishment by successfully disposing of the body, no matter how complete and convincing the other evidence of guilt," Judge John Gerrard wrote for the court. "It does not take much imagination to see how bloodstains on a weapon, garden shears, towels and the truck of a car suggest both criminal activity and an explanation for the absence of the victim's body."

Edwards also challenged the reliability of the DNA testing conducted at the UNMC Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory. Specifically, Edwards argued that the equipment was intended for research

SEE EDWARDS: PAGE 3



Christopher Edwards, shown in 2007, is led from Douglas County Court after being convicted. (Patrick Doty/The Gateway)

# Edwards' conviction | Equivalent of 30 full-time jobs now on budget chopping block

Salary questions remain after AAUP chapter wins appeal



Chancellor John Christensen, who is joined by Vice Chancellors Terry Hynes and Bill Conley, discuss the campus budget during a forum on June 25. (SCOTT STEWART/THE GATEWAY)

SCOTT STEWART EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The UNO campus is still playing the waiting game with budget cuts needed to address a \$2.2 million shortfall this fiscal year, but details of the reductions could come any day.

The university is expecting to eliminate the equivalent of 30 full-time positions by cutting vacant faculty positions, reducing some faculty to nine- or 10-month contracts, bringing in non-state support for some positions, moving some positions to part-time and capturing salary savings where

Chancellor John Christensen outlined the plan at a budget forum on June 25 in the Collaborating Commons of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service Building. About 140 campus community members attended the forum.

Christensen said the details of the budget reductions would be announced after the university fixes faculty salaries, an issue the university had appealed to the Nebraska Commission of Industrial hearings for the case. Relations and is considering appealing further.

An earlier announcement of budget details would be inappropriate, Christensen said, because the university does not want to announce more cuts than are ultimately necessary. Once the salaries are finalized, each administrative unit will be asked for final recommendations and specifics would be calculated in a few days, he said.

"It's very possible that most or many of the 30 [full-time equivalent positions] will be from positions that do not have people in them," Christensen said after the forum.

The likelihood of more substantial budget cuts - including the possibility of layoffs - was increased on Thursday, however, when the Commission of Industrial Relations ruled in favor of the UNO chapter of the American Association of University

The university had offered the faculty 2.9 percent in 2009-10 and 2.5 percent in 2010-11 compared to the 1.5 percent increase budgeted systemwide for salary increases. Instead, a special master awarded the AAUP its offer in arbitration with the university: a 3.8 percent salary increase in both fiscal year 2009-10 and fiscal year 2010-11, as well as an expanded life insurance benefit.

The commission rejected the university's argument that it should be allowed to present additional evidence not presented to the special master who made the initial arbitration between the university and the AAUP.

Citing legislative intent, the commission ruled that - while the university's argument, which based on precedent, was arguable - the case was not a regular-wage case, which the commission noted could take more than a year to resolve.

"In any event, the [university's] contention that it should be allowed to disregard stipulated facts that were presented to the special master and just change the facts upon which the decision of the special master was based is untenable," Commissioner Bernard J. McGinn wrote for the

Commissioner William G. Blake wrote a dissent on the ruling. He argued that additional evidence, which purported to show the special master's decision was in error, should have been reviewed by the commission.

Presiding Commissioner G. Peter Burger also appended an opinion stating that he agreed with Blake, but that the decision was up to McGinn, who was the commissioner who conducted the

Joel D. Pedersen, vice president and general SEE BUDGET: PAGE 8

# Custodian dies while working; cause unknown

Andrea Ciurej News Editor

The booming, contagious laughter of longtime UNO custodian Johnny Perkins - once heard down the halls - is gone.

However, his joyous nature, demeanor and infectious roar will live on in the hearts of many friends, family, co-workers and students.

Perkins, 57, passed away at work on June 26, leaving behind a tireless work ethic and a thirst for knowledge.

Although he never had the opportunity to become an undergraduate student, Perkins was very knowledgeable, especially about politics and black history.

"He did a lot of tracing and research on all types of subjects," said Edna Perkins, his wife. "He was interested in the political realm and how the world was doing. It was endless."

She said Perkins had taken off

of work June 22-24 due to foot pains. He returned work the night of June 25.

He died early the next morning work on the fourth floor of Kayser Hall,



according to a police report.

The cause of death is unknown, according to the police report and Perkins' wife. A co-worker had reported that Perkins had passed

Perkins was employed at UNO since October 2002. He served as a member of the floor maintenance team on the 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. shift. Perkins was also a Navy and Vietnam veteran, serving from

> Perkins is survived by his wife SEE PERKINS: PAGE 7

# Mavericks 'proud new members' of WCHA conference

SCOTT STEWART

Editor-in-Chief

It's official: UNO will join the Western Collegiate Hockey Association beginning with the 2010-11 season.

The final expansion vote was nine in favor of admitting UNO and northern Minnesota's Bemidji State, with abstention on procedural grounds.

Bemidji State will be playing its final season in the dissolving College Hockey America conference. The Mays will play

out this season as their last in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association, which the program has been affiliated with for the past 10 years.

"Our upcoming season will be bittersweet," Associate Athletic Director Mike Kemp said. "We have built outstanding rivalries with the schools of the CCHA, and our players have seen a particularly high level of competition each season. We also know that new rivalries await in the WCHA, and we expect our players to rise to the challenge."

Kemp, the former head coach of the Mavericks, stepped down this summer at the request of Athletic Director Trev Alberts to help the new athletic director run the hockey program. To replace Kemp, UNO recently hired Dean Blais, former head coach of North Dakota and three-time WCHA coach of the

While the CCHA is a great league, Blais said deep down he Alaska Anchorage, Colorado wanted to return to the WCHA.

"I was happy to hear that Michigan we would be joining the WCHA

in a year's time," Blais said. "I'm obviously very familiar with the league as both a head coach and assistant coach for 19 years and before that as a player. It's a league with a great tradition and excellent coaches, and I'm looking forward to competing against them."

UNO and Bemidji State will join the 10 current members of the WCHA - University of College, University of Denver, Technological

SEE HOCKEY: PAGE 3

# gareway

EST. 1913 University of Nebraska at Omaha

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#### CRIME LOG

COMPILED BY
ANDREA CIUREJ
News Editor

Saturday, June 20

Campus Security responded to a call for assistance from the University Village R.A. Upon arrival, two visitors were found intoxicated. Their alcohol was confiscated.

Sunday, June 21

2:07 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security heard suspicious noises coming from Lot L. Further investigation disclosed two visitors intoxicated. Their alcohol was confiscated.

Tuesday, June 23

1:43 p.m. While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed reckless driving in Lot L. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. One visitor was arrested for driving under the influence and a second visitor was cited for minor in possession.

Wednesday, June 24

1:43 p.m. While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed reckless driving in Lot L. Further investigation disclosed alcohol violations. One visitor was arrested for driving under the influence and a second visitor was cited for minor in possession.

Friday, June 26

1:17 a.m. A student reported suspicious noises and activity inside her suite at Scott Village. Campus Security investigated and was unable to determine the cause.

**6:10 p.m.** Three students reported the theft of personal property from the Sapp Fieldhouse. The incidents occurred at unknown times.

Wednesday, July 1

**12:04 a.m.** Campus Security responded to a noise complaint at University Village.

Omaha police responded and cited one suspect for disturbing the peace.

**7:04 p.m.** A visitor reported the theft of personal property from the Criss Library. The incident occurred between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 2

2:30 p.m. A staff member reported theft of university property from the Milo Bail Student Center. The incident occurred between 11 p.m., June 27, and 10 a.m., June 30

Saturday, July 4

12:50 a.m. While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed suspicious activity in the St. Margaret Mary parking lot. Further investigation disclosed two minors under the influence of alcohol. Omaha police responded and cited both visitors for minor in possession. Both minors' parents were then contacted to pick them up.

Sunday, July 5

**3:11 a.m.** While on patrol, Campus Security heard suspicious activity at University Village. Further investigation disclosed an alcohol violation by three students and four visitors. Omaha Police responded and cited one student for minor in possession. All three students were referred for disciplinary action.

Monday, July 6

**2:06 a.m.** While on patrol, Campus Security witnessed suspicious activity on University Drive South. Further investigation disclosed an alcohol violation. Two students were referred for disciplinary action.

Tuesday, July 7

2:27 p.m. Campus Security responded to an assault in Arts and Sciences Hall. Upon arrival, the incident was over. The suspect(s) were interviewed, and the matter was referred for disciplinary action.

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The Gateway is looking for a motivated, sales-minded person who wants to gain valuable experience working at a student-run publication.

Candidate must be a motivated individual with excellent communication skills who is deadline-oriented. Experience with a Mac Platform, Microsoft Word and Excel is a must. Skills with Adobe Creative Suite is a definite plus.

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You can also stop in the Gateway offices located in MBSC, room 116.

Application deadline:

Tues. August 31, 2009

#### Milliken joins vice president's wife in annual world conference in Paris

University of Nebraska President James B. Milliken and other higher-education experts joined Jill Biden and government officials for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's 2009 World Conference on Higher Education.

The world conference, which was held in Paris from July 5-8, was the first one the United States attended since America withdrew from UNESCO in 1984. The U.S. rejoined the organization in 2003.

Milliken, one of only a few educational experts from the U.S. who attended, represented U.S. higher education's innovation agenda. Other experts represented the quality and internationalization of higher education in the U.S. National student and teacher organizations were represented, as well.

"The conference is critically important," Milliken said in a press release, "because it comes at a time when appreciation of U.S. higher education, especially the role of the public research university in innovation and economic development, is growing – not only in the developing world but in the advanced economies and among our neighbors in the Western Hemisphere."

Milliken continues to serve in national higher education and innovation organizations.

He actively serves as a co-chair of the Council on Competitiveness Regional Innovation Initiative Steering Committee, on the board of directors of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and as a member of the Business Higher Education Forum. He is also the vice chairman of BioNebraska and serves on the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce and the Nebraska State Chamber of Commerce.

- Andrea Ciurej

# UNO alumnus, CBS correspondent will keynote at scholarship luncheon

CBS News Correspondent and UNO alumnus Harold Dow will speak at a benefit for the Mildred D. Brown Memorial Study Center at Creighton University's Harper Center on July 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Dow has been a correspondent for "48 Hours" since 1990. There, he conducted the program's first network interview with O.J. Simpson, following the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman. He also served as a contributing correspondent for "48 Hours on Crack Street," the critically acclaimed 1986 documentary that led to the single-topic weekly news magazine.

Dow was a correspondent for the CBS News magazine "Street Stories" before working with "48 Hours." He also reported for the "CBS Evening News with Dan Rather," "CBS News Sunday Morning" and the CBS News legal series "Verdict."

Before joining CBS as a broadcast associate in 1972, Dow served various positions with KETV Omaha and stations in California and New Jersey.

He has been honored with five Emmy Awards, a George Foster Peabody Award, an Association of Women in Radio and Television Gracie Allen Award, a Robert F. Kennedy Award, an RTNDA Edward R. Murrow Award, an Operation Push Excellence in Journalism Award and more

Neb. Sen. Brenda Council, D-District 11, and Will Norton, dean of UNL's Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, are the honorary chairs for the event. KETV anchor Nichole Berlie will serve as the mistress of ceremonies.

For more information or to order tickets, call the Omaha Star newspaper at 402-346-4041 or visit their location on 2216 N. 24<sup>th</sup> St. Tickets start at \$35 per person and \$350 per table. Reservations must be made by July 16.

- Andrea Ciurej



**SPORTS** 

#### FROM **HOCKEY:** PAGE 1

University, University of Minnesota, University of Minnesota Duluth, Minnesota State University Mankato, University of North Dakota, St. Cloud State University and University of Wisconsin – bringing the total conference membership to 12 schools.

"The WCHA is an outstanding conference with a long history of excellent players and coaches," said Athletic Director Trev Alberts. "When we were approached about admission, we took a long look at all aspects of a move to the WCHA. In the end, we felt there were many long-term benefits to our program. We're excited about becoming a part of the WCHA's rich tradition of outstanding hockey.'

Alberts said the decision to change conferences happened quickly because UNO felt prolonging the negotiations would have been unfair to the CCHA.

UNO's decision to leave the CCHA leaves the conference with an empty spot, which may go to Alabama-Huntsville, another College Hockey America team that applied for membership in the conference in January.

purpose to speculate" on the future makeup of the conference because of the league's commitment to following its admission process for any new member.

leave the CCHA as they have been a very good member of our league, and we wish them well," Anastos said. "We have an excellent league, with a very strong membership, and we to tell the story of UNO athletics to people who might will continue to focus all of our attention on being a great conference and a leader in helping to shape the future of college hockey."

WCHA Commissioner Bruce M. McLeod said the league was proud to add Bemidji State and UNO to the already strong conference, calling the expansion a "winwin circumstance" for the WCHA and college hockey in general.

"With the addition of Bemidji State University and the University of Nebraska Omaha, the WCHA solidifies and positions itself to maintain and expand upon the excellence that is the WCHA," McLeod said. "I could not be more proud of the way our WCHA members have handled this very complex circumstance and have been able to look beyond their own backyard and do what is best for college hockey and the WCHA."

Duringanewsteleconferencefollowing the announcement, McLeod declined to talk about the specifics of the expansion, including entry fees and postseason revenue.

The league is also considering five different scheduling models to accommodate the 12 schools, McLeod said. For postseason titles, the conference was leaning towards including all the teams in the conference.

UNO to a more elite level, Alberts said. The conference has recorded a collegiate record of 36 national championship teams since its founding in 1951.

WCHA is shorter traveling distances for many games, which will allow fans to travel more easily to away games, Alberts

"Regional rivalries are really important to me," Alberts said. "We are proud new members."

# Blais finalizes coaching staff

Former Omaha Lancers coach Mike Hastings will join returning assistant coach Nick Fohr to help head coach Dean Blais led the Mavericks in their final season of Central Collegiate Hockey Association play.

Hastings will assume the position of associate head coach after one season as an assistant coach at the University of Minnesota. Before then, he spent 14 years as the coach of the Lancers, where he was the winningest coach in the history of the United States Hockey League with a career record of 529-210-56.

"Mike Hastings has a proven track record of developing players for Division I college hockey, and he will be a great asset as we work to take UNO to the next level," Blais said.

Twice named USHL's Coach of the Year, Hastings led the Lancers to the USHL's Clark Cup championship during his final season with the organization, one of three playoff championships while in Omaha.

Fohr, a former Maverick from 1998 to 2002, will enter his third season as an assistant coach, having previously been UNO's director of hockey operations from 2004 to 2007. As a player, he has 15 goals and 10 assists while playing 139 games in his four-year career.

Scott Stewart

# Mavericks hit road to promote 'Omaha's Team'



COURTESY UNO ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

SCOTT STEWART Editor-in-Chief

UNO athletics will be introducing some of the newest CCHA Commissioner Tom Anastos said "it serves no members of "Omaha's Team" to the local community with the Maverick Road Show, beginning Wednesday in Fremont, Neb.

The department will hold six other events before the "We are disappointed to hear of UNO's decision to Mavs' season-opening football game against East Central University on Aug. 27 at Caniglia Field.

> "The Maverick Road Show gives us an opportunity not be familiar with the accomplishments of our student athletes and coaches," said Trev Alberts, UNO's Director of Athletics. "We think that once they hear that story,

they'll want to support the Mavericks during the upcoming athletic season and beyond."

Each stop of the Maverick Road Show will feature Alberts, UNO coaches and staff members. Each event will run from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., except for the Fremont event, which will begin at 4 p.m.

The schedule for the stops is:

- July 15: Fremont National Bank North Branch, 801 E. 23rd St. in Fremont, Neb.;

- July 23 through July 26: Cox Classic at Champions Run Golf Course, 13800 Eagle Run Drive;

- July 31: The Union Pizzeria and Sports Bar, 1420 Cumming St.;

- Aug. 5: Charlie's On The Lake, 4150 S. 144th St.;

- Aug. 12: TBA in Columbus, Neb.;

- Aug. 19: McKenna's Blues, Booze and BBQ, 7425 Pacific St.; and

- Aug. 26: DJ's Dugout, 636 N. 114th St.

The stops at The Union Pizzeria and DJ's Dugout will feature a live broadcast of "Unsportsmanlike Conduct" with Kevin Kugler and Mike'l Severe on 1620 The Zone, Omaha's ESPN Radio.

Alberts will also give a talk on "The Future of UNO Athletics" at the Omaha Press Club, located on the 22nd Floor of the First National Bank Building at 1620 Dodge St., at noon on Thursday.

For reservations for the \$15 forum, which includes lunch, call 345-8008.

# Maverick baseball to hold open tryouts

UNO will hold open baseball tryouts for all interested students on July 21 at The Ball Park at Boys Town. Signups begin at 9 a.m.

Students will need to bring their own gear, including pants, jerseys, gloves, spikes and catcher's equipment.

Participants will also require proof of a doctor's physical performed within the last six months and a copy of both the front and back of a health insurance card. For questions, or in case of inclement weather, call 554-2141.

#### Petermann tapped to replace Cimino as assistant coach

SCOTT STEWART

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Mays have a new assistant softball coach after former standout player and 12-year assistant coach Michala Cimino left UNO to become head coach of the Bellevue University Bruins.

Cory Petermann, the Mavericks' pitching coach, was The competitiveness of the league will help bring promoted to fill Cimino's spot. Petermann was an assistant coach at UNO from 1996 to 2001, and he returned to the staff in 2007.

In his nine years with UNO, Petermann has helped Another benefit UNO will receive by moving to the guide the team to a 407-127 record. Personally, Petermann is a premier pitcher in the Omaha Softball Association's men's fastpitch league, where he has thrown in seven national championship tournaments in his 12 years of experience.

> Cimino is a former May standout, having led UNO to a third-place finish in the 1994 NCAA Division II national tournament. In her two seasons as a Maverick, Cimino

set several school records, including most career home runs (18) and most home runs in a season (15).

In her 12 years as an assistant coach, she helped UNO earn a 520-173-1 record and saw the Mavs play in the NCAA tournament every season, including their national championship in 2001.

"I am very excited about this new challenge in my life," Cimino said. "I love UNO and



CORY PETERMANN

it will always be a part of me. However, I really feel like this is the right time for me to elevate myself to a head coaching position after being an assistant for so many years. Bellevue has established a great softball tradition, and I look forward to maintaining that level of success."

#### Puc beats school record, personal best in international track meet



Running for her home country of Slovenia, UNO sprinter Anja Puc set a personal best in the outdoor 800 meters while competing at the European Team Championships on June 20 in Bergen, Norway.

Her time of 2:05.91 was good for 10th place in the meet, setting a personal best for her in European international competition. It was also faster than her own school record of 2:07.29 and would have been the 11th fastest time ever run by a Division II sprinter.

Puc began running the 800-meter dash for the first time during the 2008-09 indoor season. She set the school record three different times between the indoor and outdoor

In addition the 800-meter race, Puc joined Liona Rebernik, Danijela Dzumic and Sara Orešnik on June 21 for a third-place finish in 4 x 400 meters first race with a time of 3:41.35. Overall, Puc helped Slovenia finish ninth in the Bergen meet.

Scott Stewart

FROM **EDWARDS**: PAGE 1

purposes only, that insufficient testing had been conducted and that no protocol existed for dismissing unacceptable test

The court's analysis concluded that UNMC's in-house testing was an adequate substitute for testing by the Food and Drug Administration, which the equipment's manufacturer had not conducted and, consequentially, labeled the equipment for research only.

Ultimately, the court ruled that the reliability of the

testing equipment was well established and that Edwards had not sufficiently challenged the theory or technique of the DNA testing, which showed that blood discovered at the crime scene belonged to O'Grady.

"We find no error in the district court's refusal of Edwards proposed jury instruction, denial of his motion for continuance or rejection of his proffered evidence," Gerrard wrote. "To the extent that Edwards also suggests that the court committed cumulative error, his argument is without merit."

# Summer Arts Festival recovers from last year's stormy weather

REVIEW BY
JASMINE MAHARISI
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The 2008 Summer Arts Festival took a blow last year from 80 mph winds, which forced many artists to pack up and leave or risk damage to their work. The weather this year was much milder and the festival was expected to be a hit.

Indeed, it was.

More than 130 artists from across the country participated in the First National Bank sponsored 2009 Summer Arts Festival, displaying and selling ceramics, paintings, glass art, jewelry, metal art and many other works executed in various mediums.

A few of the artists – this year's number was seven – were from Omaha, but the majority came in from more distant places such as South Carolina, Arizona and California.

"Summer Arts brings a variety of great things to our community," said volunteer coordinator Jordan Bruch. "The most important would be the variety of artists who are from all over the country bringing in unique and interesting things we don't normally get to see in Omaha."

Perhaps the most important part of the Summer Arts Festival, however, is the atmosphere. In the festival's World Stage Pavilion, blues and jazz acts entertained the crowd while the Upstream Brewing Company served a variety of locally brewed beers.

Patrons were given a selection of beers that included a crisp lemonade lager and a raspberry lager. Both were incredibly refreshing and combated the oppressive humidity.

Popular local bands took the World Stage Pavilion beginning Friday at noon and ending Sunday at 5 p.m. Musicians including The Chris Saub Trio, an Omaha jazz and acoustic band, and the Prairie Cats, a local swing jazz group, drew large crowds into the pavilion.

Brulé, a contemporary Native American group that has sold over a million CDs worldwide, was a highly anticipated act and filled the Landmark Plaza stage during its threeday performance.

"My favorite thing about the festival would be the music," Bruch said. "The festival always has awesome music and the crowd always gets into it, the atmosphere for world music was fantastic."

The cost of food and drink during the festival varied significantly from vendor to vendor. In the World Stage Pavilion, drink tokens sold for \$4 a piece and could be used toward a variety of drinks including wine and the aforementioned extensive beer list.

This in itself was a deal, as most higher-end lagers and brews start at about \$6 a beer at local establishments and go up from there. It should be noted, however,

that the volunteers helping in the World Stage Pavilion were allowed complimentary drinks, which definitely made volunteering — like I did — at the festival a rewarding experience.

An overflowing plate of curly fries from Made 2 Grill was \$5, but contained enough grease at the bottom of the plate that would undoubtedly require an expensive open-heart procedure in a few years. A healthier choice of vegetable stir fry and a glass of green tea was available for \$7 from a vendor who served Asian-style cuisine.

Adults weren't the only ones who were able to enjoy the festivities, though.



John Loken, of Lincoln, creates a sculpture made of forged steel in the Old Market at the 35th Annual Omaha Summer Arts Festival. (MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY)

The theme for this year's Summer Arts Festival's Children's Fair was "It's Easy to be Green" and offered activities such as face painting and creating art from recycled material. The Family Entertainment Stage also offered families acts such as the Blues Society Kids Band and Roberto the Magnificent.

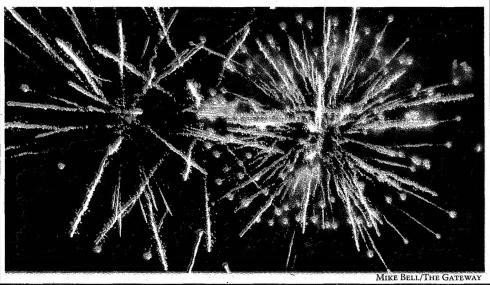
The event is so beloved by Omahans that now, just days after the 2009 festival is over, the planning for the 2010 Summer Arts Festival has already begun.

"A few days after the event is over the organization starts planning for next year's festival," Bruch said. "It takes all year to plan for this event and to make it successful."

MIKE BELL/THE GATEWAY

# Memorial Park concert ends with a bang

Above, concert-goers enjoy music from bands such as Night Wing, The Guess Who and Grand Funk Railroad in Memorial Park on June 26 as part of the annual Bank of the West Celebrates America concert. Below, fireworks were the grand finale of the free concert, which also collected donations and sold plush bears to benefit the Omaha Food Bank.



# Jazz on the Green kicks off 25th season

The Joslyn Art Museum is holding its annual Jazz on the Green this summer for the 25th consecutive year. The outdoor concerts are held every Thursday night at the new Peter Kiewit Foundation Sculpture Garden.

Since 1985, more than a half-million guests have enjoyed the summer concert series, which runs until Aug. 13. The shows begin at 7 p.m. and last until 9 p.m.

Admission to the shows is free, but donations are encouraged. Guests can bring their own breathable blankets and lawn chairs, but tents or tarps are prohibited.

The gates open at 5 p.m. and Joslyn's galleries will be open for viewing until 8 p.m. free of charge. Also this year Whole Foods is offering a la carte selections to create your own picnic. Food orders such as sandwiches and salads can be placed the day before the show and then picked up at the site.

The sculpture garden is the new site for Jazz on the Green this year and features a reflecting pool with granite walkway and a 83-feet-long, 7-feet-tall flowing water wall.

The garden is located on the east side of the building and the bands will perform on the grand staircase. In case of inclement weather, the show will be moved indoors.

The series will feature Marcos and Sabor on July 23, Ida McBeth on July 30, Resurrected Swing Band on Aug. 6 and the 25th Anniversary All-Stars on Aug. 13.

To place picnic orders with Whole Foods, contact 393-1200. For more information on museum events, contact the Joslyn Art Museum at 342-3300.

- Todd Hansen

# **Cox Classic Golf Tournament seeks volunteers**

The Nationwide Golf Tour's Cox Classic will once again be held in Omaha at Champions Run Country Club. The event starts July 20 and runs through July 26. Volunteers are needed for positions ranging from caddying to shuttle services.

Some perks of being a volunteer include a polo shirt and hat, free meals, a volunteer badge and an extra weekly grounds pass. More than 1,000 volunteers are needed and applications can be filed online.

Jobs that volunteers can apply for include walking scorer, marshal, standard bearer, on-course concessions, spotters, admissions, parking lot, shuttles, special events, product distribution and finishing tents.

The tournament is in its 14th year. Last year more than 85,000 attended for the week. Over the years, more than \$1.6 million has been raised for local charities.

The golf tournament is considered a premier event for the Nationwide tour. The prize money the players are vying for is the second largest purse all year, trailing only the Ford Wayne Gretzky Classic.

The Michelob Ultra 19th hole will be offering entertainment each night from Wednesday to Saturday. There is a \$5 cover charge, except on Wednesday, but the 19th hole offers drink specials from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. At 10 p.m. on Saturday, a fireworks display will be featured along with the band Grand Theft Girlfriend.

Applications to volunteer and other information can be found at coxclassic.com.

- Todd Hansen

# The Gateway's summer beer guide

REVIEW BY CONTRIBUTOR

The middle of summer can sometimes be just as bad as the middle of winter. It's hot, it's muggy and you need about three layers of sunblock to avoid looking like a ripe tomato. Luckily, one thing that summer has which winter lacks is the ability to hang outside with a group of friends and drink a cold, refreshing alcoholic beverage to your heart's content.

However, with most summer beers falling into one of two categories, wheat or sweet, it's important to pick the one right for your palate.

#### Blue Moon's Honey Moon

This is a standard selection for most people in the Midwest during the summer. From the makers of Blue Moon, Honey Moon adds a bit of sweetness to their recipe and comes up with a beer that has a full body and a slightly sour finish.

Honey is definitely the aftertaste here, with a hint of orange at the end, as well. It's a good, refreshing beer, especially for the price.



#### Buffalo Bill's Orange Blossom Cream Ale

This is the beer that astronauts would drink if they could.

Like a slightly-alcoholic version of Tang, Buffalo Bill takes the all-or-nothing approach used in their pumpkin ale, a fall seasonal, and apply it to oranges for a summer selection.

While mixing fruit and beer is a cardinal sin for many, I have actually found Orange Blossom to be a really good choice for a hot summer day.



#### New Belgium's Skinny Dip

I'm not a huge fan of New Belgium's selection and this one was no different. When I think of summer beer, I don't really think of a beer that is so malty.

In my experience the best stimulant if you want a citrus flavor is hops, not malt. The thickness and skunkiness of their malt-hop balance is really a detriment. You can't even taste the lime and other citrus flavors they claim to add.

This is one of the most readily available summer seasonal beers in Omaha, but I'd avoid it if you can.

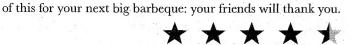


#### Sierra Nevada Kellerweis

This is a new addition to Sierra Nevada's year-round lineup so it's not really a summer seasonal, but it sure tastes like one.

From the makers of a delicious pale ale, their Bavarian wheat knocks the flavor out of

While you get your normal wheat flavors here, you also get hit over the head with orange and banana which, for anyone who has had an authentic Bavarian wheat beer before, is a truly delicious trifecta of flavors. Make sure to grab some



#### Leinenkugel's Summer Shandy & Honey Weiss

Leinenkugel is a brewer that I pretty much go to exclusively for three types of beer and here are two of the three. Taking the wheat-or-sweet mantra to heart, they have two great selections for relief in the summer heat.

Summer Shandy is like the best parts of lemonade and beer put together. While it's a little too sweet sometimes, it's really hard to go wrong with a lemonade beer in the

Honey Weiss is just like it sounds: a wheat beer with a splash of honey added. This is a delicious, delicious beerwith just the right amount of sweetness and smoothness to make it truly refreshing. Both are good choices.



#### Samuel Adams Summer Ale

This is probably my least favorite of the Sam Adams seasonal but that doesn't mean it's bad; actually, quite the opposite.

This is a wheat beer that adds some lemon and pepper to the recipe to create, and I'm not kidding, a popcorn flavor.

That may sound really weird, but it's not. It actually works.

There's definitely a hint of banana in the beer too which may play a part in that popcorn flavor.

This isn't a particularly spicy, hoppy, or malty beer and you'll likely tire of its flavor after two bottles, but if you need a quick late-night selection, this would serve you well.



HEFEWEIZER

D&BOTTLED BY STERMA NEVALIA EXEMING CO.C

It may not seem like it but the days of summer are going by quickly and before you know it many of these beers will be off the shelves to make way for Pumpkin Ales and Oktoberfests. Grab these delicious summer brews while you still can and, as always, if you choose to drink please do so legally and responsibly.

#### Ringing in Independence Day



UNO carillonneur James Johnson, above, performs a 30-minute concert of patriotic melodies in the Henningson Memorial Campanile on Independence Day.

The carillon is a four-octave instrument consisting of 47 bronze bells. The largest of the bells weighs 4,397 pounds and measures five feet in diameter. The combined weight of the bells is 24,408 pounds, which is more than 11 metric tons.

The campanile, UNO's iconic bell tower, rises 168 feet over the Dodge Street campus and is one of only 180 such structures in the United States. It was donated to UNO in 1989 by Marge Henningson Durham and her husband, Chuck Durham.

# ATTENTION UNO STUDENTS

# BILL DUE DATES

June 23rd - Balance due July 14th - Balance due August 4th - Balance due

August 21st - Balance due

## LATE PAYMENT FEE

Each unpaid bill is subject to late payment fees. A Late Payment Fee of \$25 will be assessed to unpaid balances of \$400 or less. A \$50 Late Payment Fee will be assessed to unpaid balances over \$400. Students who do not make their required payments will have holds placed on their enrollment, financial aid and transcripts.

It is the responsibility of each student to know the tuition payment schedule, the late payment fee policy and the refund policy and deadlines.

Student E-Bills are available on E-BRUNO. Please check your UNO student e-mail account for your billing notification, or for more information regarding our billing policies.

cashiering.unomaha.edu

# **OPINION**

#### STAFF EDITORIAL

#### Transparency critical in budget announcements

Dealing with budget reduction is always tough, especially when the prospect of layoffs and permanent program cuts are on the table.

UNO has suffered more than its fair share of budget woes in the past, leaving us with what Chancellor John Christensen correctly describes as an "anorexic" budget - at times we are so concerned with how the budget appears that we voluntarily starve programs.

Under former Chancellor Nancy Belck's watch, this budget disorder was hidden from the Omaha community, ultimately culminating in the revelation that the athletic department was annually operating a million dollars in the red. That realization was made only after the department fired five employees, including then-Associate Athletic Director Debra Denbeck, prompting inquiries into the department's books.

The understandable public outcry regarding Belck's lack of transparency - along with her altering of documents provided to the Omaha World-Herald and the shameless perks given to her crony, then-Vice Chancellor of Administration Jim Buck - led to the resignation of Belck, Buck and former Athletic Director David Herbster.

Since then, UNO has faced the challenge of regaining the trust of university supporters and booster organizations due to the lack of transparency of the Belck administration.

Christensen seems to have a solid plan to continue to address the needs of Maverick athletics, with Athletic Director Trev Alberts already capturing the attention of not only the local community but also the nation at large - as a New York Times article on Alberts last week surely indicates.

So far, Christensen also seems to have avoided much of the mystery surrounding budget reductions under Belck. His use of public forums to keep the campus community - from custodians to deans - updated on budget matters is laudable, as is his openness to input from all stakeholders in the university, not just those with political connections.

However, the university is at a critical place in the budget process, as decisions are being made now about how to deal with \$2.2 million in deficits. These decisions will likely claim the equivalent of 30 full-time positions, meaning a very real possibility of pink slips in the future for some UNO faculty and staff members.

Transparency is more important at this stage of the budget process than any others. The campus community, as well as the community at large, deserves to know exactly where public dollars are going and what criteria was applied to reach the final decision.

There are many complications for this round of budget cuts: a difficult-to-predict economy, a collectivebargaining agreement that may be appealed once again and an already stripped-down operating budget. As an institution, though, the UNO community has the intelligence and the patience to understand these factors if they are presented in a open and respectful manner.

The last thing this campus needs is a vague description of cut positions, rumors and a general lack of understanding of the budget process. Everything must be put out on the table, much like UNL Chancellor Harvey Perlman has done with the budget decisions being made at his campus.

It should be understood that collecting and releasing every detail of the budget reduction process will cause some to question why their unit was chosen over another for a specific cut. Such challenges are an enviable part of making cuts to an institution about which so many people care so passionately.

Ultimately, though, the more information about the decisions – whose job was eliminated, why this decision was made, how much money did it save, what alternatives were considered - the more comfortable people will feel that the best decision has been made.

Accountability begins with information, and it is our sincere hope that the administration agrees with our assessment and ensures the campus remains informed in the coming days and weeks.

## Attract us to online classes with more choices

fits-all package. Today's students can choose on-campus classes, blended classes or earn a degree entirely online.

Perhaps it's because I'm a nontraditional student who takes on-campus classes that I find myself frequently considering other choices.

By about the sixth week of any semester, I'm ready to have a real meal between my eight-hour work day and my evening class. Instead, I'm driving between the two locations, eating a sandwich as I go. Perhaps that demographic is not so unusual, though.

Nationally, the number nontraditional students is expected to rise. Reports of continued layoffs by companies will likely result in an influx of older students who need to prepare for different careers.

Other reasons include students working on master's degrees while balancing school, employment and family

responsibilities. Others continually take classes required by their employers to maintain job qualifications.

According to the results of a February 2009 survey conducted by UNO, slightly more than 50 percent of undergraduate students work more than 20 hours per week. These numbers are based on a response rate of 11.4 percent of students, making it difficult to say they absolutely represent the majority.

Even so, some common trends are found in the survey results, such as concerns about availability of parking spaces on campus, availability of shuttle and metro bus service in relation to class schedules, and the time required by students to deal with all of these issues.

Statistics provided by the university revealed that, as of July 2008, approximately 23 percent of UNO students (3,160) completed online classes. The majority of students

A college education is no longer offered in a one-size- were Nebraska residents who earned college credits online as a way to fit school into their schedules, such as parents of young children, full time employees who lack flexible work schedules and students who could not commute to a University of Nebraska campus because of their location

or other transportation challenges. The majority (2,591) were undergrads.

Each student has his or her unique reasons for choosing the types of classes they take, including the choice of online or on-campus classes.

Ifindmyselfgoingbacktoon-campus classes each semester because I enjoy the interaction with other students and professors. I have also benefited from classes that allowed students to actually see objects being discussed in the class, whether in the form of an art object or an item from a religious ritual. I don't think an online class would fully replace those experiences for me.

Still, I readily admit that my choice could quickly change if I was living 100 miles outside of Omaha or had to be available to care for another person many hours per week or suddenly found myself with more than 40 hours of work each week as a requirement for staying employed.

As online classes continue to evolve, there may be even more incentives.

Imagine a cafeteria-style online program where you could choose classes from all University of Nebraska campuses. There is still a lot of untapped potential. Even students who cherish the live classroom experience would probably be on board with having a greater variety of choices, including online classes.

A final word about surveys: Please answer them! Our opinions matter and can affect the availability of classes and options available to UNO students in the future.



Commentary

Karen Collins

# Remember North Korea: Is Kim Jong... ill?

Think back a few weeks before Michael Jackson died. Remember the networks performing their usual routine of stretching two hours of news into 24 hours of coverage.

Il with this: "If the U.S. imperialists start another war, the army and people of Korea will ... wipe out the aggressors on the globe once and for all," according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

I would worry that North Korea will nuke Hawaii or even the West Coast, if their missiles didn't run out of coal halfway to their target. Kim Jong reminds me of that smelly kid who lived a block away from my house. Always wore camouflage pants and would play chicken on train tracks. Except that Kim plays nuclear chicken with first-world nations.

As ridiculous as Kim is, with his platform shoes and spiked hair to appear taller than 5 feet 2 inches, he is extremely

apt at remaining in power. Of course, when he's portrayed as a divine being, who would dare go against him? I believe that the next 'Dear Leader' is worse than Kim, I'm not worried. if the North Korean people weren't starving to death under Kim's atrocious economic and agricultural policies, they would have the energy to overthrow him. That is why I think

we should drop millions of military rations over North Korea with notes attached saying, "Here's the energy! Get to work!"

I imagine that if most of the populace knew what it was like to have electricity, they would rather have air conditioning and Starcraft than a leader who collects Daffy Duck cartoons and pornography. True fact: Kim's mountain of smut is visible from space.

Far back as I can remember, every other month Kim has vied for our attention by threatening the United States. But I believe we can give Kim his shot at glory without expending any money or endangering any lives. Issue a challenge to North Korea stating that if they can successfully invade and occupy, say, Kentucky, for one month, we will concede that their way of life is superior to our own and they can have our government. And we promise to not even use the Kentucky National Guard.

All right, that might be a bit too difficult, what with Fort Knox and all. I'd say give North Korea a go at Nebraska, but I imagine they'd be so bored by the time they reached On June 24, we were greeted by our friend Kim Jong Chadron, maybe even Valentine, they'd just go home.

But the good times may be ending soon. Recent photos of Dear Leader have shown a much less jovial face behind those glaucoma sunglasses. Kim has lost weight after his reported stroke last year. Paired with diabetes and possibly even heart disease, he may not last the summer. China has expressed that it does not want Kim's son, Kim Jong Un, to replace his father, which would end nearly 60 years of Kim's family controlling North Korea.

Whatever the outcome, I can only hope we can say goodbye to the prison camps and threats of nuclear holocaust. I'd optimistically hope they would hold an election but I'm sure whoever runs in

Kim's stead will win by 110 percent of the vote. And even if Let Japan deal with North Korea. Japanese soldiers have guns that shoot lightsabers. Well, maybe not their troops, but their robots do!



Mike Bell



# Advocating terrorist attacks must have Losing self-respect explanation along with condemnation as an unpaid intern

Anyone who follows political commentary probably heard something about a statement by Michael Scheurer, former chief of the Osama bin Laden unit at the CIA, on the Glenn Beck program on Fox News on June 30.

If you haven't, the comment was this: "The only chance we have as a country right now is for Osama bin Laden to deploy and detonate a major weapon in the United States,

because it's going to take a grassroots, bottom-up pressure, because these politicians prize their office, prize the praise of the media and the Europeans.

"It's an absurd situation. Again, only Osama can execute an attack which will force Americans to demand that their government protect them effectively, consistently and with as much violence as necessary."

It goes without saying - one would hope – that his comment is ridiculous, if only because a grassroots pressure can be generated without such a horrible attack. Calling it treasonous is perhaps too far, but irresponsible seems to be an appropriate description.

Imagine, for example, reading such words in the op-ed section of a newspaper, even a student newspaper such as The Gateway. Such a bold statement, especially lacking any detailed supporting argument, would strike many readers as inappropriate and a poor decision by the offending

To merely state that Fox News broadcasts an offensive opinion, though, is saying too little and risks sounding like a broken record.

Advocating censorship, at least on the part of the government, is a wrongheaded reaction to comments like this, too. These sorts of opinions - of which Scheurer's comment is only one - deserve more than superficial disapproval or dismissal. They merit dissection and overt challenging.

Scheurer's comments seem to translate, roughly, into the idea that the only way to change politicians is through fear and crisis. I'm currently reading Naomi Klein's "The Shock Doctrine" - a book I'd recommend to anyone interested in the way the world really works – which focuses on essentially the same theme: the exploitation of crisis.

The benefit of a crisis, to those who seek to capitalize on them, is the state of panic that accompanies it – people are willing to do whatever is needed to resolve a crisis, and trust is more easily gained from someone in a desperate

situation than one in a calm situation.

Fear of a crisis is just as powerful a motivator, as the Bush administration showed in the years following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. In fact, it seems as though fear has taken a central place in politics, crossing ideological and geographical boundaries with ease, although it is particularly present in the political right in the United States.

> Scheurer's irresponsible and possibly dangerous, because they popularize this notion that crisis is needed to effect change. Broadcast on the national stage, it is to incidents like the shooting at the Holocaust Museum this summer.

> in the arsenal of politics remains words and the ideas they represent. Bullets can alter the course of history, and terrorist attacks can bring pause to rational discourse as a society panics like a spooked animal.

But insofar as humans are the "rational animals," as Aristotle classified homo sapiens, the initial shock of a terrorist attack will wear off, whereas the legacy of such an injustice is what will persist.

would generate a long-term change in American values is simply wrong. What it would accomplish is the murder of innocents and, quite probably, allow the politicians against whom Scheurer is supposedly railing to push through policy changes society would normally reject.

That, of course, is not grassroots democracy. It's opportunistic tyranny, and it would be an abdication of the responsibilities of those who hold office, as the USA Patriot Act and Bush's warrantless wiretapping were.

Scheurer should not be silenced for offering such stupid or cynically manipulative analysis. The public, however, still should not stand for it.

In an ideal world, Scheurer would be shouted down by democracy and reason, which would have never allowed fear-mongering tactics to become such a cancer in modern politics and public discourse in the first place.

In this world, though, Scheurer's comments should be explained for what they are: either a poor misunderstanding of how political change happens or a cynical propagation of an opportunistic attitude that is actively corroding

A viewing was held at Myers Chapel and a wake service

was held at Jehovah Shammah Church International on July

6. A memorial celebration was held July 7 at King of Glory

Evangelistic Center, with internment at Mt. Hope with a

Military Honor Guard by VFW Post #2503. Contributions

(UWIRE) - When I tell people I intern at Pitchfork Media, I try to tell them it's not-a big deal. And really, it's, But to anyone who has ever heard of Pitchfork, the music critic giants responsible for many an indie band's success (or failure), it is a big deal. Or, at least, it sounds like

Never mind that I sit in a fold-up chair at a dirty messages like these that risk giving keyboard for six hours in dead silence as I instant message rise to tragedies, from assassinations my boss from 10 feet away - this is what's going to get me places in life.

**CHRISTINA CHAEY** 

Daily Northwestern

When I mentioned to my dad that the office doesn't In reality, the most powerful weapon have air conditioning, he grumbled, "This is child labor!" No, Dad - this is the smell of success. Oh, actually, is that

> The unpaid internship is one of the great paradoxes of undergraduate life. On the one hand, you're getting your foot in the door on your way to becoming the next big thing. On the other hand, you're doing it for free when you could be making \$100 a night in tips at the local under-the-table

If you want to look at it from a different perspective, the cost of rent, food and transportation means that many Suggesting a terrorist attack by Osama bin Laden students are essentially paying their employers for giving them the privilege of opening mail and taking lunch

> Who decided along the way that the real way to define yourself against a sea of your overqualified peers is to prove you can verify that the Roadside Graves have indeed released four - not three - albums? Is this really the way I'm going to guarantee a long, fruitful career as a renowned journalist? All signs point to yes: One more fact checked is one step closer to being editor of The New York Times, or at least that's what we've been taught by the hype.

And let's not forget about our other overqualified peers. You know, the graduates who are fruitlessly scoping the current job market for bites. They've already put in their long, coffee-making hours and are biding their time until the steadily inclining unemployment rate - currently at 9.5 percent - turns itself around. When that happens, the market will be flooded with twice as much competition, which is, of course, all the better for us.

Regardless of the complaints, year after year, more undergraduate students flock toward the prospect of an unpaid summer in line with their future career goals.

There are certainly those who would argue that there are certain merits of the unpaid life. Those people may say things like, "Look at all the valuable life experience you're gaining," or, "Think about how good it will look on your

Which may be true, but to the unpaid summer intern, it all begins to sound like hoohah around mid-July. But hey, at can be made to Jehovah Shammah Church International in the very least, once you're done you can laugh at the menial tasks of the new interns come to the slaughter.



Scott Stewart

#### FROM **PERKINS:** PAGE 1

and sons Jihad and Jalaal.

He is also survived by sisters Velma, of Chicago, and Addie, Betty Lou, Joanne, Della Sue and Wanda, of Little Rock, Ark.; brothers Willie and Cleon, of Chicago, and Sylvester, Bennie and Patrick, of Little Rock, Ark.; stepchildren James, Terrell, Tyree, Angela, Stacie and Fannise, all of Omaha; 12 grandchildren and other relatives.

Perkins' name. challenges for these COMMENTS (157) ill likely require an Aaaahhh!!!!!!!!!! I got scooped!!!!!!!!!! O\_o ive) and lower-level Posted by cryinguncontrollably - 3 hours ago ctivity from several oding a number of OMG LOL!! ROTFL!!!!! can provide a patient (Obfuscatingly Messy Graphs, Lacks Older Literature, Research Objectives Totally Filmsy, Lazy) Posted by reviewer2 - 17 hours ago If you liked this paper, you should check out the work by ers of the Andersen Weissberg, et al. Pesaran, B. Corneil Posted by weissberg - 7 days ago haud and Z. Nenadic. Can anyone tell me where find information on funding? Posted by desperategrad - 13 days ago n of hand trajectory by lature, 2000. 408(6810): p. HOT MaTLab Dealz! FrEE LaTex software! click HERE! st, J.E. O'Doherty, D.M. Posted by spambot 3 month ago mriquez, M.A.L. Nicolelis, e for reaching and grasping Obcious bias by liberal science elite. Whn will America see inski, L., Fellows, M.R., teh truth!?????? movement signal. Namre, Posted by wingnut 5 month ago Direct cortical control of I'don't get it, how is this related to string theory?? help! Edit: oops! I didn't read paper. Never mind. Haha ;P on of neural output from a on. Neuroreport, 1998. 9(8): Posted by clueless36 1 year ago If you liked this paper, you should check out the work by scheller G, Vaughan TM, cation and control. Clin Weissberg, et al. Posted by weissberg - 14 years ago achines: recent advances in 5, p. 1085-1088. IF RESEARCH PAPERS HAD A COMMENT SECTION



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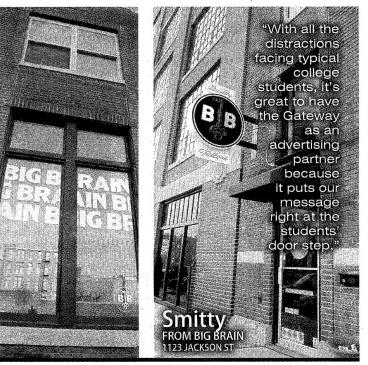


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FROM BUDGET: PAGE 1

counsel for the university system, said the university was considering a further appeal, which would be heard by the Nebraska Court of Appeals or, if the court steps in, the of in a holding pattern on the salary issue,"

30 days from the commission's ruling to file an appeal.

"Until the decision is final, we're sort

Nebraska Supreme Court. The university has Pedersen said. "Both sides think they put on a good case."

In the meantime, Christensen has encouraged the campus community to continue to help place UNO on a sound fiscal

footing over the long term.

Christensen urged the campus to continue to conserve resources and help grow revenue, in particular through recruitment and retention efforts on an individual, one-on-one basis by faculty members. In addition, Christensen suggested that faculty and staff members participate in wellness activities to help reduce future health-

care costs. Christensen also told attendees at the budget forum to look at the glass as half full, reminding them that budget cuts at higher-education institutions nationwide are generally worse than the cuts being made at UNO.

Increased enrollment for the summer semester - an increase of about 5 percent from last year - is also an encouraging sign, Christensen said. The campus is hoping for an increase of about 3 percent enrollment in the fall semester,

"People are starting to recognize [UNO] for what it is: one hell of an institution," Christensen said.

#### UNO's shortfall only part of NU budget woes

The NU system overall is facing an \$8.5 million shortfall in the fiscal year 2009-10 budget. UNO receiving a \$2.2 million share based on a tuition shortfall of \$700,000, universitywide cuts of \$300,000 and \$1.2 million in salary increases beyond the NU-wide increase of 1.5 percent, said Bill Conley, vice chancellor of Business and Finance.

Looking forward to the fiscal year 2010-11 budget, UNO is anticipating a \$2.7 million shortfall, as the salary component stays static at \$1.2 million, the campus share of university-wide cuts increases to \$400,000 and occupancy and maintenance costs associated with Mammel Hall opening replace the tuition shortfall at a cost of \$1.1

"It appears we're going to have a challenging budget for fiscal 2010-11, as well," Conley said.

At other NU campuses, similar reductions are being made to cope with the tightened budget, which are ultimately being caused by the recession that began in December 2007, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

UNL announced plans to cut the equivalent of 56 full-time positions - including 28 filled staff positions - to cover its \$3.7 million share of the budget shortfall. Lincoln will also cut \$1 million to the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, among many other cuts to programs and academic departments.

At UNMC, a \$1.7 million shortfall will impact the equivalent of nearly 24 full-time positions, about half of which are vacant. The medical center will try to find non-state-aided funding to support the remaining positions, which may otherwise face elimination.

Information regarding the UNK budget reductions has not yet been announced, said Sharon Stephan, a spokeswoman for the university.

Barbara Johnson, UNK's vice chancellor for Business and Finance, said the campus hoped to have a preliminary plan announced soon. Details will be presented at an open forum in the fall semester to give the campus opportunity for feedback.

"We are not as far along as the UNL campus," Johnson said. "We have been working with the Chancellor's Cabinet and the Administrative Council in developing those plans, and we hope, within the next several weeks, we will have a plan."

For more information about the UNO campus budget, visit the UNO Budget Advisory Task Force Web site at www. unomaha.edu/budgetadvisorytf. For a copy of the Commission of Industrial Relations decision, visit www.ncir.ne.gov.

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